IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 12, 15-17, 20, 24, and 25.

Please enter the pending claims, including claims 1-27 as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

2 creating a play list based on a user's preferences;

3 occasionally connecting a portable device of the user to a network;

4 submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through the

5 network;

6 gathering multimedia content specified in the play list;

7 downloading the multimedia content to a multimedia content cache in the

8 portable device;

9 disconnecting the portable device from the network; and

10 playing the multimedia content on the portable device.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein creating a play list comprises:

2 creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: the user's

3 specifications, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined

4 by the multimedia content provider;

5   expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional

6   content based on the user's preferences; and

7   refining the expanded initial play list based on the user's feedback.

1   3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein expanding the initial play list

2   comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.

1   4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the <u>portable</u> device

2   comprises a <u>computer</u> ~~portable device~~.

1   5. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein playing the multimedia content

2   comprises accessing the multimedia content and rendering the multimedia

3   content to the user.

1   6. (Original) The method for claim 5, wherein accessing the multimedia content

2   comprises at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing,

3   and decoding the multimedia content.

1   7. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein the network comprises at least

2   one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a

3   terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

1   8. (Currently Amended)   A method comprising:

2   connecting occasionally to a <u>portable</u> device through the Internet;

3   accepting a play list of multimedia files from a user of the <u>portable</u> device;

4   searching a database for multimedia content according to the play list;

5   processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is

6   downloaded; and

7   transferring the multimedia content to the <u>portable</u> device.

1   9. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 8, wherein the occasionally-

2   connected <u>portable</u> device comprises a <u>computer</u> ~~portable device~~.

1   10. (Original)   The method of claim 8, wherein processing the multimedia files

2   comprises at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and

3   encoding the multimedia files.

1   11. (Original)   The method of claim 8, wherein the database comprises at least

2   one of static and dynamic multimedia content.

1   12. (Currently Amended)   A system comprising:

2   a play list creator capable of creating a play list of multimedia files;

3   a multimedia content provider capable of providing multimedia files

4   specified by the play list for a user to download;

5   a <u>portable</u> multimedia content cache capable of receiving the multimedia

6 files through a network while occasionally connected and storing the multimedia

7 files; and

8   a <u>portable</u> multimedia content player capable of accessing and rendering

9 the multimedia contents to the user.

1 13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the play list creator comprises:

2   a play list generating mechanism capable of generating a play list;

3   a pre-determining mechanism capable of at least one of the following:

4 receiving parameters specifying the user's preferences, loading a user pre-

5 defined play list, and providing a number of play lists pre-determined by the

6 multimedia content provider;

7   a recommendation mechanism capable of expanding the play list by

8 recommending additional multimedia files; and

9   a user feedback uploading mechanism capable of uploading the user

10 feedback to refine the play list.

1 14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content provider

2 comprises:

3   a communication port;

4   a multimedia content database;

5   a searching mechanism capable of searching the multimedia content

6 database for multimedia files in the play list; and

7   a content processing mechanism capable of at least one of the following:

8 packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

1   15. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 12, wherein the <u>portable</u>

2   multimedia content cache comprises:

3   a communication port;

4   a receiving component capable of downloading and receiving the

5   multimedia files from the multimedia content provider through a network; and

6   a storage component capable of storing the multimedia files.

1   16. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 12, wherein the <u>portable</u>

2   multimedia content player comprises:

3   a multimedia content access module capable of at least one of the

4   following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia

5   files stored in the <u>portable</u> multimedia content cache; and

6   a multimedia content rendering mechanism capable of rendering the

7   multimedia files to a user.

1   17. (Currently Amended)   An article comprising:

2   a machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein

3   when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for caching

4   multimedia content to a <u>portable</u> device by:

5   creating a play list based on preferences of a user of the <u>portable</u>

6   device;

7   submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through a

8   network while the <u>portable</u> device is occasionally connected;

9   downloading multimedia content in the play list to [[a]] <u>the</u>

10 <u>portable</u> device when the <u>portable</u> device is connected to the multimedia content

11 provider and caching the multimedia content on the <u>portable</u> device; and

12   playing the cached multimedia content while the <u>portable</u> device is

13 not connected to the multimedia content provider.

1 18. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the content for creating a play list

2 comprises content for:

3   creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: the user's

4 specifications, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined

5 by the multimedia content provider;

6   expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional

7 content based on the user's preferences; and

8   refining the expanded initial play list based on the user's feedback.

1 19. (Original) The article of claim 18, wherein the content for expanding the

2 initial play list comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of

3 other users.

1 20. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 17, wherein the <u>portable</u> device

2 comprises a <u>computer</u> ~~portable device~~.

1   21. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the content for playing the

2   multimedia content comprises content for accessing the multimedia content and

3   content for rendering the multimedia content to the user.

1   22. (Original) The article for claim 21, wherein the content for accessing the

2   multimedia content comprises content for at least one of the following:

3   unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia content.

1   23. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the network comprises at least

2   one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a

3   terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

1   24. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

2   a machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein

3   when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for distributing

4   multimedia files by:

5   accepting a play list of multimedia files;

6   searching a database for multimedia content according to the play

7   list;

8   processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is

9   downloaded; and

10   transferring the multimedia content to an occasionally-connected

11 portable device while connected.

1   25. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 24, wherein the occasionally-

2   connected <u>portable</u> device comprises a <u>computer</u> ~~portable device~~.

1   26. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the content for processing the

2   multimedia files comprises content for at least one of the following: packaging,

3   encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

1   27. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the database comprises at least one

2   of static and dynamic multimedia content.